

AF FORM 112-PART I

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

COUNTRY USSR <i>C/S Only</i>		REPORT NO. 181371- 59-8 -1730	(LEAVE BLANK) <i>EP-100491</i>
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT 103 872			
SUBJECT SEE CONTENTS BELOW			
AREA REPORTED ON VORKUTA, USSR		FROM (Agency) 7050th AISW	
DATE OF REPORT 2 Oct 53	DATE OF INFORMATION Mar 49 - Aug 50		EVALUATION F-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) EDWARD E. LUNDAK, Lt Col, USAF		SOURCE 181370	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) FRINGE			
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)			

I. PREAMBLE:

SOURCE was interned in Russian camps from May 45 until Sep 53, when he was repatriated to Camp FRIEDLAND, HESSEN. SOURCE was interned in VORKUTA from Aug 48 until Jul 50. During this time SOURCE met the individuals whose description follows.

II. SOURCE met a person at camp VORKUTA in Jan 50 who claimed to be a Colonel in the US Army Intelligence Service. SOURCE gave the following description:

Height: 1.78 to 1.80 m. Age: 48 years.

Weight: 68 to 70 kg, of slight build.

Color of Hair: light-brown, graying at temples.

SOURCE submitted the following background info: SOURCE thought that the man's name was CZERNY or CHANNY, born in CHICAGO, but lived in PHILADELPHIA most of his life. "CZERNY" had told SOURCE that before the war, he had been a "G" man, and had written a book about "AL CAPONE". SOURCE also mentioned that "CZERNY" was pushed into a black sedan and driven straight to WIENER NEUSTADT. "CZERNY" at one time had also told SOURCE in confidence that he was not a Colonel, but really a General.

SOURCE spoke English well and made the following observations about the reliability of "CZERNY's" statements: SOURCE did not think that the man was an American or a Colonel. SOURCE had heard from fellow PWs that "CZERNY" had been a Pfc in the WAFFEN SS. However, "CZERNY" was treated by the Russians as a VIP, he was given a separate room, good uniforms, and ordered the Russian guards around, furthermore SOURCE stated that "CZERNY" only spoke English and never uttered a word of German or Russian during the six months that SOURCE and "CZERNY" were in the same camp. SOURCE last saw "CZERNY" in Jun 50. He never heard of him again thereafter.

III. SOURCE also met another man in VORKUTA at the same time that "CZERNY" was there, who claimed to be an American. SOURCE offered the following description:

INCL.

Classification cancelled on 10-10-80

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By authority of Chief of Staff, USAF
 By: *AT-014, Cableman*
 Date: *16 June 53*

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) 7050 AISW	REPORT NO. 59-B 181371-1730	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
PLACE VORKUTA, USSR	WAC NO 094	FN EVAL IN CODE NO
POLITICAL LOCATION YAMALO-NENETSKIY OBLAST	DISCRIPTIVE NAME OF REPORT PIR on EVIDENCE SUBMITTED BY FRANZ VON WESENDONK	
SOVIET ECON. REGION WEST SIBERIA	PROPER NAME	DATES OF INFORMATION FROM Jan 50 TO Jun 50

Height: 1.65 m.

Age: 38 years.

Weight: 62 kg.

Color of Hair: brown.

SOURCE submitted the following background info: Name ROBERT COSHMAN or KOCHMAN. Occupation: Lutheran Minister, and a representative of a Lutheran Magazine in Russia. "COSHMAN" told SOURCE that he had been in Russia on a lecture tour, and that while lecturing at the University of SVERDLOVSK he had been arrested and given 25 years hard labor without trial. "COSHMAN" said that he had been in the US Navy as a Lutheran Chaplain and had held the rank of Captain. He claimed to have been in the Pacific Theater during WW II. "COSHMAN" was fervently religious and wrote rather extreme religious poetry while in camp. He did not say where he came from in the US, but mentioned that he had lived in SAN FRANCISCO for 25 years. SOURCE thought that "COSHMAN" was a Galician Jew who had lived in the US, but did not believe that he was a minister or had had any higher education. "COSHMAN" spoke perfect Ukrainian and his mother lived in NIKOLAYEVKA. "COSHMAN" was very popular in camp because of his courage and resistance to the Russians. He always helped PWs who were ill in a very selfless manner. Both "CZERNY" and "COSHMAN" worked in mine # 6 of the coal mines at VORKUTA. "CZERNY" was in charge of the pump house at mine # 6. "COSHMAN" was never heard of after Jun 50.

APPROVED:

Theodore B Goff
for D.M. ALLISON
Colonel, United States Air Force
Commander

Theodore B Goff
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